Rail revenue from transporting vehicles

742. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of revenue earned by Railways from transporting vehicles by rail in 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether transportation of cars by rail has been discontinued;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore ?

(d) whether Government have any proposal to continue movement of vehicles alongwith other cargo trains, as the automobile companies are finding it difficult to move cars to long destinations in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) The figures of earnings for transporting vehicles are not maintained separately by the Railways.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Currently, transportation of vehicles by rail is done in rakes and not combined with other cargo.

Difficulties of handicapped persons in rail reservation

†743. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that handicapped persons have to face much difficulties while reserving a ticket even today;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of showing passes by the handicapped persons at Railway counters, they are not being provided reserved ticket; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide them more facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) Handicapped persons are issued concessional

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.